

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In response to the Examiner's further Office Action of September 29, 2008 the Applicant respectfully submits the accompanying Amendment of the claims and the below Remarks.

Regarding Amendment

In the Amendment:

independent claim 2 is amended to specify that the claimed method is of attempting a write to a target entity having first and second security fields to cause the target entity to perform an action and includes initializing the first security field with a first initial value and the second security field with a second initial value, sending the first message which causes the entity to perform an action and to adjust the first and second initial values in the first and second security fields by respective first and second amounts, and sending the second message which causes the entity to adjust the first and second initial values in the first and second security fields by respective third and fourth amounts, that the write restrictions of the security fields prevent the initial values being adjusted: in accordance with the first message, if the initial values have been adjusted in accordance with the second message; and in accordance with the second message, if the initial values have been adjusted in accordance with the first message, and that the action is only performed when the initial values in the security fields have been adjusted in accordance with the first message. Support for this amendment can be found at paragraphs [7166]-[7188] of the specification;

independent claim 3 is cancelled;

dependent claims 4-7, 15 and 18 are amended to conform with amended claim 2; and dependent claims 16 and 17 are unchanged.

It is respectfully submitted that the Amendment does not add any new matter to the present application.

Regarding 35 USC 112, first paragraph Rejections

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of amended independent claim 2, and claims 4-7 and 15-18 dependent therefrom, is described at paragraphs [7166]-[7188] of the specification.

Regarding 35 USC 112, second paragraph Rejections

The Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the clarity rejection of claim 2 based on the amendment thereto which omits the language cited by the Examiner.

Regarding 35 USC 103(a) Rejections

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of amended independent claim 2, and dependent claims 4-7 and 15-18, is not taught or suggested by Serizawa in view of Kane, for at least the following reasons.

In the claimed invention, both the first and second messages are configured to adjust the initial values which are initialized in the security fields but are prevented from doing so in accordance with the write permissions of the security fields if the initial values have already been adjusted.

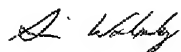
On the other hand, Serizawa discloses that whilst sufficient toner remains neither the service life address 6 nor the memory lock address 8 are written to at all, which is contrary to the first message of the claimed invention. Furthermore, Serizawa specifically discloses that once data is written to the memory lock address 8, then no data can be written to addresses 5 to 8 (see col. 6, line 9-col. 7, line 28).

Accordingly, there is no motivation for one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Serizawa to write to the memory lock address 8 in a "first message". Thus, no combination of Serizawa and Kane would result in the claimed invention.

It is respectfully submitted that all of the Examiner's rejections have been traversed. Accordingly, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Very respectfully,

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